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SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 1905.

WEATHER BULLETIN.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—For lower Michigan—Generally fair; light south-easterly winds; warmer.

NOT TO BE GARROTTED.

In view of the fact that many reports have been circulated to the effect that visitors at the world's fair will be charged so much per breath and other equally preposterous representations having been made concerning fees and charges President Higginbotham has issued a circular letter to refute them. Among other things the circular contains these:

"The Exposition will be opened in readiness for visitors May 1.

An abundance of drinking water, the best supplied to any great city in the world, will be provided free of cost.

Ample provisions for seating will be made without charge.

About 1,500 toilet rooms and closets will be located at convenient points in the buildings and about the grounds, and they will be absolutely free to the public.

The admission fee of 50 cents will entitle the visitor to see and enter all the Exposition buildings, inspect the exhibits, and, in short, to see everything within the Exposition grounds, except the Esplanade village and the reproduction of the Colorado cliff dwellings.

Imposition or extortion of any description will not be tolerated.

Free medical and emergency hospital service is provided on the grounds by the Exposition management.

The Bureau of Public Comfort will provide comfortable free waiting rooms, including spacious ladies' parlor and toilet-rooms in various parts of the grounds.

From the above it is obvious one may visit the fair with the assurance he will not be taxed every time he winks or ventures to exercise any of the privileges of a sightseer. Much of the humorous stuff about confidence sharp and bunco-steerers is the veriest rubbish.

HEADMAN MAXWELL.

Nobody seems to be very greatly displeased with Headman Maxwell's record of decapitations. That fourth-class postmaster shall be the victims of party spoils is one of the settled principles of our much disturbed politics. During the first month of his administration only 578 heads dropped into the basket. He didn't equal Clarkson's record of four years ago. He decapitated 1,328 democrats in that length of time.

Of course it is fashionable for republicans to cry out against this merciless slaughter of the innocents just as the democracy cried out four years ago. Nobody lays any serious stress on these howls. They are perfunctory rather than sincere. If republicans were to step into power tomorrow, it is probable that nine tenths of Headman Maxwell's appointments would be set aside. For that reason all parties take a moderate degree of satisfaction in witnessing the victims gather in their trophies.

When the multitude of principal appointive office was elevated above the rabble by civil service reform, the democrats enjoyed the situation immensely. Now they are in the saddle they would have the iniquitous reform reformed, but they cannot. Therefore they sweep down on the fourth-class postmasters, and the corner grocery politician extorts himself in clover if he hear his name favorably associated with the village postoffice.

But Maxwell is proceeding very slowly and cautiously. He is a practical politician, and is building up a Cleveland party within the walls of the afraid-of-the-tariff democracy. Sooner or later his broad-bladed ax will descend on the necks of Michigan postmasters, and then we will join in the howl against his unfeeling cruelty and base prostitution of political power. We won't mean a word of it, for we would do the same thing if we held the ax.

CHEAPER FREIGHT RATES.

Mr. Gilbert is not satisfied that the improvement of Grand river navigation will be useful and profitable to the taxpayers of this city. He asks Tax Commissioner to satisfy him that the proposed enterprise has the merit of utility. To do this would require an expenditure of time and space altogether out of proportion to the value of the end to be accomplished.

That the proposed improvement will quicken every industry located in this city is manifestly plain to the men financially interested in them. The location of the city is such that every producer and manufacturer is at the mercy of existing transportation companies. The freight rates to and from this city discriminate so injuriously against our producers, the evil is felt in the dinner pails of the workmen and in the retarded growth of our industries. To mitigate excessive freight rates there is no remedy—a water route. Cheap transportation is the life of modern industry.

The shifting of local enterprises by reason of exorbitant freight rates is beginning

to be felt. There are one thousand vacant houses in this city today. Such a condition of things was never known before in the history of the city. High rents, low wages and lack of employment have contributed to this condition. The city has about reached the maximum of its growth under its present facilities and environments. Its dependence upon railways to impart industrial thrift has been relinquished and it is face to face with a necessity. That necessity is more avenues for profitable manufacture.

The improvement of the Grand river is the scheme to greater opportunities for industrial development. It will be possible to deliver lumber, coal, iron ore, wheat, and other staple raw materials at our factories as cheaply as they are delivered at the lake towns. In return, our products may be shipped to markets on equal terms as to freight rates with our competitors in other cities.

It is presumed that Mr. Gilbert is familiar with the schedule of freight rates for this city. If so, he will know that a slight reduction is so appreciable to the manufacturer, no argument is required to satisfy him it is a good thing. So, with a deep-water channel the freight rates will experience a large reduction, the magnitude of which, in a few years, will exceed the expenditure for deepening the channel. Not alone the manufacturers, but every taxpayer will be proportionately benefited.

POSSIBLY A MISTAKE.

If the annexation of Hawaii were to gain the United States commercial supremacy of the islands it would be imperative that immediate favorable action be taken on the pending treaty, but we already have commercial supremacy. The Hawaiian revolutionists ask us to assume political supremacy. The political condition of the country is in a chaotic state. If the United States were to accept the Islands it must needs restore political harmony from the material now dismembered and rebellious. The task would be no easier for this government than for the present provincial government.

The United States is not making a conquest of Hawaii. Revolutionists overthrow the established government and seizing the public offices proceeded to administer the affairs of state. While yet the excitement was at its height an embassy was dispatched to offer the government to this country. Subsequently a protest was received from the native islanders and while the question was yet undecided a treaty of annexation was negotiated and sent to the senate for ratification. The senate was republican. Instead of ratifying the treaty as it might have done, it was passed over to a democratic administration. The president thereupon withdrew the treaty pending a further investigation.

The government is now prosecuting an investigation. The commissioner appointed to make that investigation has ordered the American flag lowered from the Hawaiian Capital. In doing so he assured the government that no foreign power would be permitted to interfere pending his inquiry. He has the inquiry shall be completed the government will be in possession of all the facts. Then if annexation shall be deemed to be desirable it will follow as a matter of patriotic duty. It is permissible to assail the democratic administration for lack of patriotism and to malign the motives of its officers, but such a course will not hasten or retard annexation. It gratifies partisan malignancy; but it doesn't cultivate the modern spirit of patriotism. It is possible a mistake has been made; but very improbable that the president has knowingly and willfully taken a step to humiliate the United States in the eyes of the world.

WITHOUT AN APOLOGIST.

In spite of the statement that the petitions for a continuation of the superior court represent the intelligent sentiment of the community, there are none to defend that sentiment with facts and arguments. On any other public question the newspapers are besieged by persons eager to present reasons pro and con. On this question there is not one to come forward with as much as an apology for his presumption in professing to represent intelligent sentiment.

The superior court is a lie. It professes to do and to be something entirely foreign to the truth. It is not a necessary public tribunal of justice. That specious fabrication has deceived the public. The poor workman has been inveigled into a belief that it is necessary to protect his little home from burdensome street assessments. The fact is his home is assessed to pay \$20,000 annually to support a court that is idle two-thirds of the time, and whose jurisdiction in such cases might better be relegated back to the probate and circuit courts.

It is certainly a thankless task to force these truths home against a corrupted and prejudiced sentiment. The selfish influences that created the sentiment are the influences alone to profit by the wrong. If the taxpayers of this city were asked to create three offices carrying salaries and expenses aggregating more than \$20,000, they would dismiss all personal and political considerations to get at the necessity for the offices. Yet here we have just such an established function and the taxpayers refuse to consider its necessity to pay for its retention on personal and political grounds.

CAROLINA'S SALOON.

South Carolina is going into the saloon business. Governor Tillman is in Pittsburgh buying the stock. Just why Pittsburgh is a better whiskey market than Louisville is immaterial. The South Carolinians are original fellows and they would go to the equator for

snowtails if anybody doubted their ability to get them in the torrid zone. The South Carolinians are usually first in anything novel or rebellious.

So the fact that Governor Tillman is in Pittsburgh to buy whiskey to stock a state saloon is not an extraordinary thing for South Carolina. After July 1 there will not be a licensed saloon in the whole state of South Carolina. Not even a drug store license will be issued. The whiskey and alcohol will all be sold from the state saloon or dispensary to sub-dispensaries. Instead of bald-headed barkeepers with a 15-cent smile on their faces and a 9-cent diamond on their shirt bosoms, bonded and salaried minions of the law will concoct "Carline" juleps and sorghum cocktails for the "crackers."

The drugstore will not be permitted to sell liquors of any kind in any quantity. The state arrogates to itself every perquisite of the rumrunner. There will be no gilded billiard halls and seductive pool rooms in connection with the state saloons and dispensaries. They will be run strictly on their merits as saloons. The man that must have his toddy will be obliged to conform to the red tape process incidental to the government-controlled bureau. The bureau of "booze" will be no exception in this regard.

The Carolinians expect very much to come from their law. The governor thinks it will be made universal and will ultimately solve the liquor problem. It has been in successful operation for forty years in Norway. But Norway and South Carolina bear no marks of resemblance. When a Carolina cracker wants a drink he will not be satisfied to go about getting it with the philosophic resignation of the phlegmatic Norwegian.

PRESIDENT WESTON has wisely limited the speeches to be made at the dedication of the Michigan world's fair building to five minutes each. The average speaker confined to five minutes by extra exertion frequently makes his talk within ten minutes of the limit. If this shall hold good at the dedication there will be two hours and forty-five minutes of uninterrupted oratory. However, President Weston may be relied on to enforce the rule, if he has given notice it will be enforced. Fifty-five minutes of speechmaking will be sufficient to satiate the desire of the legislature and other guests for Columbian oratory in connection with Michigan's building.

SECRETARY CARLISLE is preparing to issue bonds to maintain the gold reserve which is threatened by the extraordinary drain for gold to supply the Austrian demand. It is gratifying to know he will adopt the expedient contemplated by his predecessor. In the end our money system will be placed on a foundation so broad and secure it will be impossible to disturb its equilibrium by foreign fluctuations.

RIGHT on the heels of the announcement that John Power will be made marshal for western Michigan, the Free Press comes out with the declaration that he stands something more than a ghost of a chance for the district attorneyship. Now if the Free Press venture to state Mr. Power's qualifications for the office, Senator Doran will be pretty sure to rake off the prize.

It is reported that ex-Governor Winans and Wellington R. Burt will be substantially remembered by President Cleveland. Burt's all right, because he's a renegade republican; but isn't Winans almost too much of a democrat to be given an office by the administration?

SENATOR CHANDLER needed no defense from the aspersions cast upon his record as secretary of the navy by Firebrand Vance. The high efficiency of the department when he turned it over to Whitney made it possible to outline the plans since so splendidly developed.

DOX CHRISTOPAL COLON La Corda duke of Veraqua, Marquis of Jamaica, Admiral and adelantado, and mayor of the West Indies, has arrived in New York. He is a lineal descendant of Columbus, and his name will be brought to Chicago in a special train.

DAVID A. WELLS will call on Cleveland and unfold a tariff for revenue plan. By the time Grover has considered all the schemes of all the reformers, he will decide that it is too late to repeal the McKinley law, and will let it stand.

ANDY FIVE has been duly confirmed. He will now file his bond and enter upon the duty of drawing his salary. This extra exertion, following a long period of supine idleness, will not unduly tax Andy's mental and muscular powers.

NEW ZEALAND has so far advanced in the science of government its legislature is working to establish a socialistic Utopia. It was not very many years ago that the natives were chiefly occupied killing off missionaries.

THEY have some unique ideas about religion down in Columbia, S. C. A telephone girl has been expelled from the Presbyterian church, because she is obliged to work four hours every Sunday.

EX-WARDEN DAVIS betrays a sentimental grasp of the philosophy of penological reform; but the practical knowledge of hard sense discipline seems to be remotely beyond his mental clutch.

YESTERDAY was a glorious day for civil service reform. Hoke Smith removed twenty-eight republican pension claimants, and Maxwell appointed 128 democratic postmasters.

PLEA FOR THE GIRLS

A West Side Girl Wants to Even Up Matters

BY HAVING A Y. W. C. A. SOCIETY

She Explains How the Girls Are Denied Privileges Freely Granted to the Boys—Her Plan for Relief.

EDITOR GRAND RAPIDS HERALD.—During the Epworth league convention a great deal of service was rendered by the different christian organizations of the city, and particularly by the Y. M. C. A. We were given the pleasure of inspecting the new building with all its conveniences for pleasure and profit, but the thought comes to us very forcibly that we girls are being neglected.

We are not jealous, but why is not our physical and mental development as much consequence as that of the boys? Many of us spend just as many hours each day in close, dusty factories as do the boys, and our work is just as hard according to our strength as theirs. When the day's work is done the girl has only the streets, public dance, or the theater for amusement. When a boy's work is done he has the privilege of lectures, reading rooms, gymnasium, or if he is studiously inclined he has the evening classes with competent instructors, for the sum of \$5 per year.

Is there one place in this city where a girl can have such advantages? Why is this distinction made? The working girls are coming to be looked down upon, and as I am a working girl myself I object to that. We are as good by nature as the young men, but if superior advantages are given them and they improve the opportunity, why should the less fortunate girl, of course, I mean the factory and sewing girls and some of the lady clerks.

After ten long hours of drudgery for the meager sum of fifty cents you may be sure that a girl has no heart to improve her mind by a long and tiresome course of reading. Give her a place where she can meet with girls of her own age, listen to interesting talks, give her a reading room, music, games, gymnasium, as you do the boys, and in six months' time the change that she formerly made, with such a place where a refining influence would be thrown around them, the number of girls on the streets till midnight would be lessened. With such advantages the girls would have something to think and talk about besides card parties, flirting, etc.

Some one would start a Y. W. C. A. they would find many ready hearts and hands, and soon the city would be proud of its girls. Is there not some one who cares enough for the girls who will start such a movement? Surely this would be part of Christ's work.

Not only every girl who reads this plea, but to her friends and something will be done about it, hopelessly as it may now seem? Girls, if no one will help us, we will help ourselves.

ONLY A GIRL.

For Young Women Only.

The movement for organizing a Young Women's Christian association, got a little start yesterday, when Miss Silvers, state organizer, met a few of the christian women of the city in the Y. M. C. A. building and discussed the matter. The objects of the association in providing convenient meeting and refreshment places for young women were stated. A committee was appointed to have the matter in hand ready to start the enterprise at some future time, consisting of Mesdames J. Morgan Smith, M. V. Adams, Campbell Fair, J. H. Martin, A. C. Torrey and Miss Goodman.

MR. WHITE AGAIN.

EDITOR GRAND RAPIDS HERALD.—"A Member of the Board" admits the plan upon which "Mr. White" is based is a bad one. He submitted by Colonel Ludlow in response to inquiry from General Casey, chief of engineers. The order reads: "A survey of Grand river below Grand Rapids, with a view of determining the existence or non-existence of underlying rock; the hydraulics of the river; and the detailed topography of the valley subject to overflow."

The order seems of sufficient scope to cover the possibilities so far as an engineering problem is concerned. All will concede Colonel Ludlow's ability to outline a plan for the improvement of the river. It is conceded that the plan raises the funds for improvement upon the plan submitted by Colonel Ludlow, which contemplates expenditure of \$600,000. For this information we are grateful. If not asking too much will "A Member of the Board" please indicate in a definite way what the city of Grand Rapids is to get out of the fifty feet depth and ten feet in depth (per Colonel Ludlow's report) after it is completed? Are we to understand this is "deep water navigation"? Also in what special way will it conduce to the prosperity we ought to expect from the creation of so large a sum? Engineering expenditures are only warranted by commercial necessity. Wherein lies the venture for sagacious investment?

As regards the apprehensions that the board of trade is moving without ruler or compass. These necessary adjuncts to successful navigation may be rendered unnecessary if the board of trade is under influence causing magnetic variation, and the wheelman slanders of his course. Either are valueless to locate shoals or bars in uncertain direction during a fog. The only wise law is to "play by" until the mists clear and a proper course ascertained for safe progress. I am, sir, a practical engineer.

T. SEYMOUR WHITE.

WANTS MORE LIGHT.

EDITOR GRAND RAPIDS HERALD.—I suppose the constitution has been changed so that the voters of Grand Rapids can, if disposed, lend the city for a large amount of money to be expended in improving the navigation of Grand river. I am not sure, but I understand it, any one can vote on this question, regardless of his interest in the city, hence the necessity for full information as to the plans and purposes of the promoters of the scheme. T. Stewart White, who is familiar with the river and its position, has asked some pertinent questions of Tax Commissioner, and the answers did not seem satisfactory, hence this communication.

The government engineers have reported that it was impracticable, as an engineering problem, to obtain a ten foot channel to the lake, but if they discovered the utility of it, it has recognized its value. The question is, what is it contemplated to do with the city will do but little toward giving us ten feet of water to the lake. The board of trade, city papers, and others who seem to be blindly pushing this enterprise will be required to give the taxpayers of the

city information more definite than the generalizations heretofore presented as to the benefits to be derived from the contemplated loan before the money will be voted. This is too important a matter to be rushed through without a full discussion of its merits, and it will surely be had.

THOMAS D. GILBERT.

HIT AND MISS BRIEFS.

Turkey has been bullyingraging Uncle Sam again. Americans, as a rule, don't care to eat Turkey in the summer time, but they will if it becomes necessary.—Chicago Times.

Queen Victoria has taken 477 prizes at cattle shows. And yet the old lady doesn't know the difference between a stirk and a twinter.—Steep Brook Bazaar.

Senator Hoar naturally doesn't believe in the popular election of senators. He knows that he could never in the world get in that way.—Boston Globe.

There is nothing to prevent the New York structure from assembling at watch Mr. Cleveland press the button to start the world's fair going.—Washington Star.

Senator Gorman says he has no influence with the administration. Both sides can point to the fact with pride.—Cincinnati Tribune.

It is said that the office seeker who has a red flannel string tied around his waist is pretty apt to get there.—Atlanta Constitution.

They make a man in charge of a steam fogsignal do considerable whistling for his pay before he gets it.—Buffalo Courier.

Every duty laid must be for revenue only, and where revenue begins protection ends.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

It is frequently the case that the American flag finds itself worshipped for revenue only.—Washington Post.

Stealing street franchises is the latest form of highway robbery.—New York Recorder.

WORLD'S FAIR NOTES.

A fine model of Windsor castle, built to scale from architectural drawings, will be exhibited at the world's fair. It is believed to be the largest in existence and the only one architecturally correct. The model covers an area of 4518 feet and stands sixteen feet high. It is built upon a stand, the inside of which is a work of art in saloon decoration.

Italy, which for a long time declined to participate in the world's fair, has made an appropriation of 277,500 lire, or about \$55,500, for its representation. The Italian chamber of commerce and other financial interests have also supplied funds with liberality.

The world's fair will be opened promptly on May 1, and notwithstanding many reports to the contrary, everything except possibly a few minor details will be completed and in readiness for inspection by the public.

The numerous restaurants and cafes in the world's fair buildings will be supplied from a common kitchen, situated in the south part of the grounds, and measuring 125x325 feet.

More than \$16,000,000 has been paid out thus far by the Exposition company alone in preparation of the fair. An expenditure of six or seven millions more will be made.

The 40,000 souvenir quarter-dollars which congress authorized to be minted for the board of lady managers of the world's fair, will be issued, it is expected, by May 1.

Special fete days will be a prominent and interesting feature at the world's fair. Michigan's will be August 13 and 14.

POINTS ABOUT MEN.

The admirers of "The Silence of Dean Maitland" can scarcely fancy the writer of the strong, earnest story to be a woman rather than a man, and a sick woman besides. The story was written by Miss Turrell, a delicate girl, who was obliged to do most of the work upon her couch.

The famous Italian tenor, Fernando de Lucia, who now lives in a palace of luxury in Naples, used to beat the bass drum in a regimental band. Though a tenor robusto, he is a small and delicate man. Success has left him unaffected and devoid of vanity.

The Rev. S. W. Owen of St. John's Lutheran church, Hagerstown, Md., has been selected as one of three Lutheran ministers to represent their faith at the congress of churches at the world's fair.

Dr. Klempner of Berlin has become convinced by patient experiment and observation that proof against cholera infection can be best secured by the use of milk from an immunized goat.

Devad Pasha, the grand vizier of Turkey, refuses to keep a harem. He has but one wife, who, ever since he married her, many years ago, has possessed his undivided affection.

Mr. Astor is referred to by the New York Sun as "an eminent American of the New York type who has a place upon the editorial staff of the Pall Mall Gazette of London."

William Watson, the English poet, who was recently attacked with insanity, is said to have been entirely restored.

ALLEGED TO BE FUNNY.

Mrs. McDuffigan—Have you taken yet little girl away from the school? Mrs. O'Duffigan—I have, she was getting so smart that I could no longer open my mouth that she wouldn't be correct in her speech, so I thought it was time for her to learn her own living and I sent her to work in the factory.—Brooklyn Eagle.

The Father (sorrowfully)—Your absorption in social gayer grieves me. At your age such a life had no fascinations for me.

The Son (reassuringly)—At my age you probably lacked the fascinations which I inherit from my mother's side of the family.—Pittsburg Bulletin.

Marlow—So Bewie has actually allowed herself to marry that old miser, eh? Ethel (sighing)—Yes, emulating Andromeda, you know.

Marlow—How so? Ethel—She is chained to the rock.—Town Topics.

Fair American—But you talk very good English, sir; you must not be mortified at an occasional mistake.

Mortified (Crawford)—Mort, ver' good! I will try, as man said, not to mind my grammar.—Boston Transcript.

"Dear me," cried mamma. "What is the lady saying?" "He's mad at me, mamma," said Mollie. "I was trying to make him smile with the glove-stretcher."—Harper's Bazar.

Fox—Supposing you had raised your horse to jump a wall and he refused to take it?

Hunt—I should go right ahead, just as though nothing had happened.—Vogue.

VALUE OF A NAME

Prices Quoted on the Autographs of Distinguished Persons.

KEAT'S FERVENT LOVE LETTERS

Some of Them Valued at \$150.—Dr. Johnson's Signature is Rare, but Wordsworth's is Common.

How much do you suppose your signature will be worth in the auction to come, gentle reader?

It all depends.

Today, perhaps, it may be worth a cool \$100,000—that is, if the cashier chooses to honor your check. If your account is overdrawn and the autocrat of the depository is a suspicious sort of man, your signature may not be worth 13 cents a hundred with a liberal discount for cash. But that really has nothing to do with the future. Signatures now worth hundreds of dollars once belonged to men that couldn't get trusted for a dried herring and a ginger snap.

If you are one of that class of persons, take heart. Some day your autograph may be the delight of a collector, even so much that he may spend his last shilling to purchase it.

While looking over his mail the other day, Charles W. Eaton found a catalogue of autographs and original manuscripts. Some of the specimens quoted cannot fail to be of interest to man whose check has just been dishonored at the bank.

Samuel Johnson's Letters.

Dr. Samuel Johnson, the celebrated lexicographer, spent most of his life in a condition of abject poverty. It is related that he wrote "Rasselas" within two days in order to obtain funds to pay for his mother's funeral. Yet an autograph of the sturdy old doctor cannot be purchased for less than \$75.00. An autograph letter referring to "Taxation No Tyranny," is quoted at \$40. In the days of his distress the famous old Englishman would have been overjoyed at the thought of obtaining even a sixpence for his signature. But times change.

John Keats died young and his letters have had high scarcity value. A love letter of one and a quarter pages in length, written to Fanny Brawne, is valued at \$150. Another letter to the same lady, beginning, "My dearest girl," is quoted at \$125. Evidently the value of Keats' letters depends somewhat upon the warmth of affection expressed, for another love epistle to the same charmer, in which he addresses her as "Dear girl," is marked \$75.

As another evidence that poetry does not pay, it may be noted that while an autograph of William Wordsworth may be bought for \$1.50, a realistic handwriting is quoted at \$65.00. But a letter written by the famous poet is valued at \$225.00.

An autograph letter by Joseph Addison, the essayist, cannot be had for less than \$60; but a document signed by Queen Anne of England can be bought for \$10.

Robert Browning is not held in high veneration by the autograph collectors, and a letter written by him is for sale at the very low price of \$4.50. A letter by William Cullen Bryant, declining to permit his biography to be written, is quoted at \$5.00. The letter refers to his translation of the "Iliad" and "Odyssey" are marked \$4.50.

A check signed by Aaron Burr is held to be worth \$125. The face of the check does not seem to cut any figure with the autograph fiend.

Lord Tennyson's Signature.

There are not many specimens of Lord Tennyson's chirography to be had, in spite of the voluminous writings of the poet. A crabbled, characteristic sort of script written in his early years before his death can be bought for \$10.

For \$5.00 a document can be procured bearing the signatures of Queen Victoria and Lord Palmerston. It was signed in 1846, and is an excellent specimen of the queen's rather scrawly handwriting.

The founder of New York's 400 was hardly a literary man, but he owned more land than all of his descendants combined. He also did a profitable business in dickering with the red man and swapping Old Tom gin for skins. Schuyler Van Rensselaer's penmanship is quoted only in connection with autograph hunting, although there are but a few specimens in existence.

In 1793 General Washington wrote a letter to Richard Snowden thanking him for the first volume of "The American Revolution." The president thanks the author for the favorable sentiments expressed, and declares that he shall read the production "with not the less interest because it is written in the style of ancient history." The letter is valued at only \$50.

The collector that wishes to obtain one of Tom Paine's letters must pay \$21 for the privilege of seeing it. The value of the famous atheist's handwriting in existence.

Mrs. E. D. E. N. Southworth has written fifty-four novels. Perhaps that explains why her autographs retail at 10 cents. In comparison with the literary qualities of her novels this is a good price, too.

A Poem by Bayard Taylor.

A manuscript poem by Bayard Taylor is not a common every-day affair. In the course of his travels he wrote a pretty aptrophe to the North. There are sixteen stanzas of six lines each, and the manuscript is for sale for \$15. As this is less than a dollar a stanza, it may be regarded as cheap.

Among the unique things offered by the autograph brokers is an original sketch of a fruit vendor by Gustave Doré. On the reverse of the sketch is the following inscription: "Given to me by M